In due time I reaped my crop of barley and rice. I was sadly put to it for a scythe or a sickle to cut it down, and all I could do was to make one as well as I could out of one of the broadswords or cutlasses which I saved out of the ship. However, as my first crop was but small, I had no great difficulty to cut it down; in short I reaped it my way., for I cut off nothing but the ears and carried them away in a great basket I had made., and rubbed it out with my hands.

## XV. *Baking 'Bread*

My next concern was to find some way of grinding my corn, and this I did by pounding it in a mortar which I made out of a block of hard wood. How to bake my bread I did not know, for I had no oven. However, I found out a way for that also, which was this: I made some earthen vessels, very broad but not deep ; these I burned in the fire and laid them by ; and when I wanted to bake I made a great fire upon my hearth, which

I had
paved with some square tiles of my own
making and baking also. When the firewood
was burned pretty much into embers, or live
coals, I drew them forward upon this hearth,